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Conservation Commission Minutes 06/17/2010

Arlington Conservation Commission
Minutes
June 17, 2010

Mr. Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. in the second floor conference room of the Town Hall Annex. Present were Nathaniel Stevens, David White, William O'Rourke, Charles Tirone, Catherine Garnett, and Ellen Reed of the Commission. Member Ezra Benjamin and Brian Thomas, Associate Commission member were not in attendance. Also in attendance were Jessica and Ilya Tsymbal, Mathew Cunningham, Bruce Whelte, Aimee D'Onofrio, Ben Ferber, Vladimir Jandejsek and Ann Leroyer.

7:45 p.m. – Commission Business

Ms. Beckwith will forward the pictures of the Mill Brook behind **1367 Mass Ave** to the DPW for consideration in any work they might propose.

Mr. White reported that a volunteer will compose a plan for the garden near the emergency spillway at the **Arlington Reservoir**.

Ms. Reed thought that John Pickle had spoken with someone (possibly the same student that contacted Ms. Beckwith) about water testing at **Hills Pond**.

Ants will be surveyed at Arlington's Great Meadows and a report provided to us.

Ms. Beckwith will attend a meeting on June 21 regarding a potential flood mitigation project for **Colonial Village**.

8pm –**Notice of Intent**– 59 Beverly Rd

The Commission attended a site walk to this property on 6/10/10.

Mr. Tsymbal presented the project to demolish the existing house and build a new one. The work will include removing three trees and replanting 8 new ones within the Buffer Zone. A considerable amount of additional shrub and herbaceous plantings are also included.

The erosion controls will take place in two stages, one at the water's edge for the shoreline plantings and the stair installation, the other for the rest of the site grading and construction.

The large oak shall have tree protection.

Ms. Reed asked that no copper be used in the external construction materials.

Mr. O'Rourke suggested tilting the stones in the wall to help prevent failure due to soil pressure.

The owners will investigate whether there is an existing dock permit and if not will apply for one through the Chapter 91 Waterways program. The commission approved to include the dock in this permit if its not already a permitted dock. If the owners change the dock, they must come back for an amendment to this permit.

Reed/O'Rourke_____ motioned to close the hearing; motion passed unanimously.

After discussion, O'Rourke/White motioned to approve the project with the above conditions; motion passed unanimously.

Documents reviewed: 1. NOI application, dated 5/28/10, 2. Site plan, revised 6/15/10, 3. retaining wall detail, dated 6/17/10, 4. architectural drawings, dated 6/2/10, 5. tree removal, transplants and replacements plans, dated 6/15/10.

8:15pm – **Notice of Intent** – Lot C Coolidge Rd

The Commission is in receipt of a withdrawal of the application. No further action is required.

8:30pm – **Request for Determination of Applicability** – 11 Princeton Rd

The Commission attended a site walk to this property on 6/11/10.

The homeowners presented the proposal to add a second story to the existing single story house. The soffits will be 18 inches deep, this increases the dripline area of the roof by 64 sf, mostly over existing impervious surface (deck and patio). The roof drains will empty to two rainbarrels, one on each side of the house.

Erosion controls will be placed as shown on the plan. The siding materials are still being decided upon, either vinyl or fiber cement. No machinery will need access to the backyard, only ladders. The work should take from 4 to 6 months to complete.

Mr. Tirone stated that he thinks this application should be a Notice of Intent since its within 50 feet of Spy Pond. Mr. White agreed that this was a lot of work for an RDA.

Ms. Garnett suggested we amend the regulations to use the 50 distance from a resource area as requiring a Notice of Intent. Mr. Stevens is currently drafting a revision to the regulations to deal with this topic and a few other topics (plant size table and plan requirements).

White/Reed motioned to issue a Determination of Applicability that while the work is within an area under the jurisdiction of the Commission that the work will not impact the resource area and no Notice of Intent needs to be filed; motion passed, 5 affirmative, one negative.

Ms. Garnett left the meeting as she had to recuse herself from the following agenda item.

Documents reviewed: 1. RDA application, dated 6/3/10, 2. revised figures 5 and 5a, dated 6/7/10

8:45pm – **Amendment to Order of Conditions (DEP File No. 91-200)** – Alewife Greenway invasive plant control plan

Ms. Garnett left the meeting as she had to recuse herself.

Ms. Mitchell present the materials for the amendment to the permit to allow herbicide use in the attempt to control the substantial stands of invasive plants along this project.

Mr. Tirone asked if the 21-day notifications for herbicide use could be forwarded for more public distribution, for instance on the Town's website or the Arlington Listserve. Ms. Mitchell will forward the notice to Ms. Beckwith who will forward it to the Commission.

Reed/O'Rourke motioned to approve the amendment; motion passed unanimously.

Documents reviewed: 1. Amendment application, dated 5/17/10, 2) project contract specifications, not dated, 3. Site preparation, erosion and sediment control plan, sheets 12-19 of 74, dated 6/17/10, 4. DOT 2010 YOP, ROW sensitive area materials, herbicide list, not dated.

9:15pm – **Notice of Intent** – 30-50 Mill St, continued from 6/3/10

The Commission is in receipt of a request for continuance of this hearing til 7/15/10.
The board granted the request.

Commission Business (cont.)

Ms. Beckwith reported on the **mowing of the small wetlands** sometime this week on the Alewife Reservation near the Sunnyside neighborhood. It is unclear who may have done this. The wetlands were not marked. Since it appeared to be an accident, and the DOT is willing to perform restoration of the damage, the Commission did not move to issue an enforcement order.

Ms. Garnett suggested we amend the regulations to use the 50 distance from a resource area as requiring a Notice of Intent. Mr. Stevens is currently drafting a revision to the regulations to deal with this topic and a few other topics (plant size table and plan requirements).

Meeting adjourned at 10pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Corinna Beckwith
Commission Administrator